

B-3555 - B-3562

c.1855-1880's

319-301 E. Cross St. (South side)/1127-1129 Hall Alley (East side)

Baltimore, Md.

Private access

Although a number of houses were originally built along the south side of the 300 block of E. Cross St. in the 1830's or earlier, none now survive in their original condition, if at all. The block is improved mainly with late Victorian style houses. At 313-319 E. Cross St. there is a group of three story, two bay wide brick houses with shed roofs and bracketed cornices, built in 1877-1878 by Joseph Thuman, a local house carpenter. At 309 E. Cross St. (to the west of Hall Alley, which runs down the center of the block), there is a three story, two bay wide brick house with shed roof and bracketed cornice, which may, however, represent a remodeling of the original 1830's-period brick house known to have existed on this site. At 305-307 E. Cross St. there is a pair of late Victorian style two story, two bay wide brick houses with shed roofs but no extant roof cornices. Finally, at 303 E. Cross St., there is a three story, two bay wide brick house and at 301 E. Cross St., a three story, three bay wide brick house, both of which have shed roofs but no extant roof cornices. These latter two houses seem to represent post Civil War remodelings of original gable-roofed houses built on the site about 1855. At 1127-1129 Hall Alley there is a pair of two story, two bay wide brick houses with gable roofs, set on high basements, which are typical of the type of small alley house built for low-income families in the 1850's and 1860's. The houses are the only surviving houses along this block of Hall Alley, which was originally improved with a number of such houses.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

B-3555
MAGI 0435555604

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

317-319 E. Cross St.

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

☐ STRUCTURE

☐ SITE

☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

☐ UNOCCUPIED

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE

☐ COMMERCIAL

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ GOVERNMENT

☐ INDUSTRIAL

☐ MILITARY

☐ MUSEUM

☐ PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**☐ EXCELLENT☒ GOOD☐ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☒ UNALTERED (317)☒ ALTERED (319)**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE _____**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This pair of three story, two bay brick houses with shed roofs and brick and metal cornices are the second structures to occupy this site, replacing earlier gable roofed houses in the late 1870's. The houses were built contemporaneously with their neighbors, 313 and 315 Cross St.

The houses are three stories in height, 317 Cross is 16' wide, and 319 Cross is 15 1/2' wide, and both occupy lots 66' deep. 317 Cross St. has a one story high, two bay deep rear addition; 319 Cross St. has a two story high, three bay deep rear addition with a one bay deep second story frame bathroom addition which projects out over the rear yard. The houses are constructed in common bond. The shed roof is capped by a late Victorian brick and metal cornice. 319 Cross St. has a hooded rear end chimney, located at the south end of the rear addition.

All of the door and window openings have common arch lintels with solid wood tympanums. The sills are brick headers. All of the window openings are filled with 1/1 double hung sash. The first floor window of 319 Cross St. is a later addition and contains two 1/1 sash, paired beneath a common arch lintel. Both houses have late Victorian glass and panel doors set beneath single light transoms. The transom area of 319 Cross, however, has been covered over with aluminum siding. All of the openings at 317 Cross are covered by aluminum awnings. The houses sit on low basements, the entrances being reached by two brick steps at 317 Cross and one stone step at 319 Cross.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

B-3555

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1877-78

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Joseph Thuman for John T. Dempster

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This pair of houses is significant as being one of a fairly small group of large, Victorian style houses built in the Federal Hill area after the Civil War. The houses were built to accomodate the rising number of middle-class residents in the area who had prospered at local trades and businesses to the point where they could afford a large house. Apart from the fashionable shed roof and bracketed cornice, the houses are essentially the same as their gable-roofed predecessors, both in plan and facade details.

This particular pair of houses, along with the adjoining pair, were built by Joseph Thuman, a local carpenter, on land owned by the Dempster family, and which had previously been improved with three houses instead of four.¹ Thuman also built a row of two story Victorian style houses on Poultney St. west of Light St.

¹Baltimore City Land Records, Liber GR 783, Folio 377; FAP 818, Folio 278, 414; Baltimore City Directory, 1880

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 16' x 66'; 15'6" x 66'

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

M.E. Hayward / Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust / Struever Bros. & Eccles4/79

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1745 Circle Rd.

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

RuxtonMaryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

E. CROSS

B-3555

B-3555

ST.

AVE.

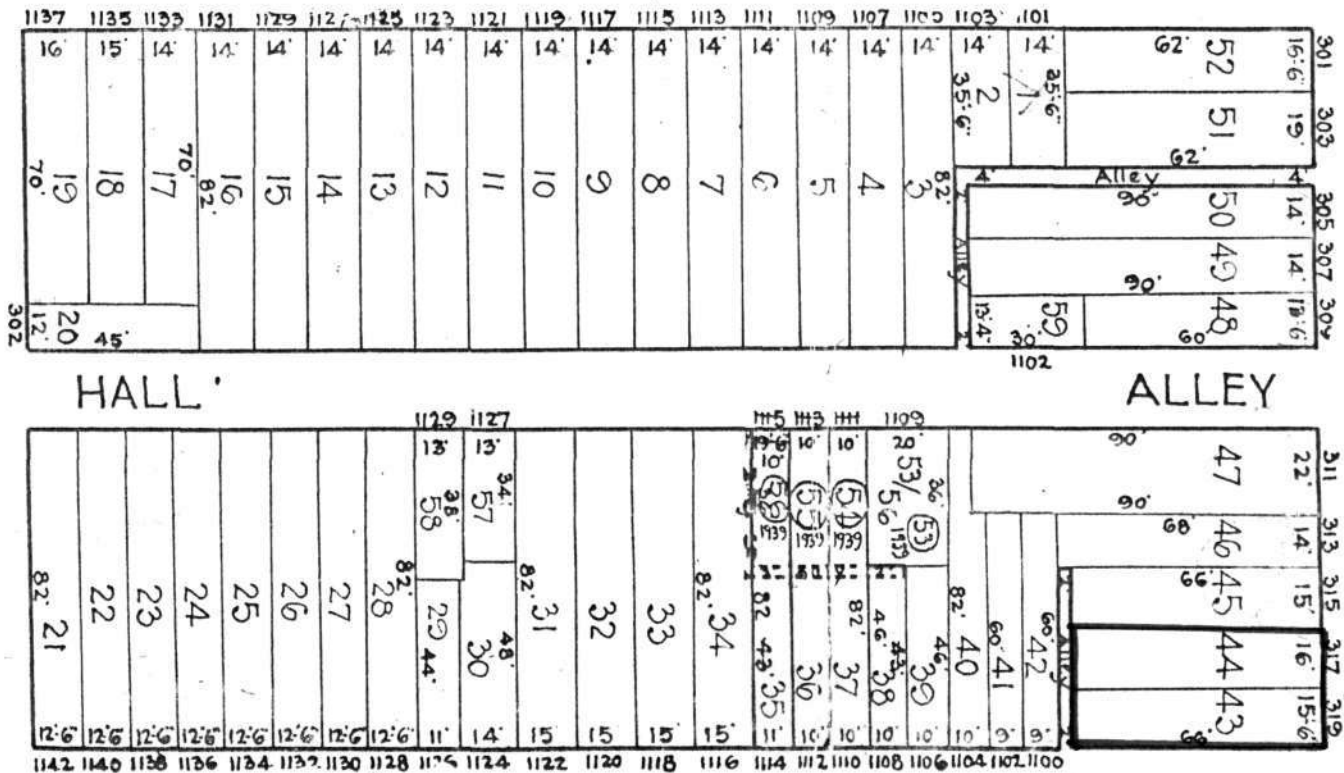
ALLEY

BATTERY

HALL

RIVERSIDE

E. WEST



B-3555
317-319 E. Cross Street
Block 1918 Lots 044-043
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





B-3555

317-319 E. Cross St.

M.E.H.

5/79

North elevation